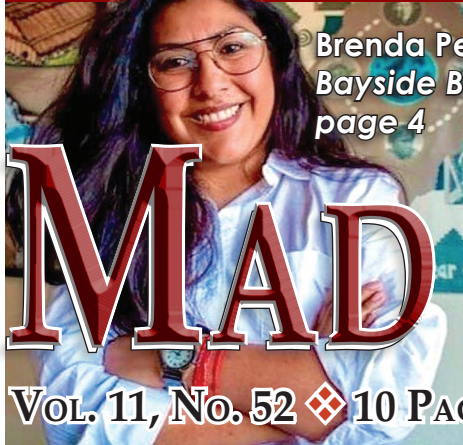



◆ SUBSCRIBE BELOW AND ENJOY THE CONTINUING SAGA




Brenda Perez.  
Bayside Beat,  
page 4



Stitch and Leo.  
Dogtown, page 3  
MARA SEGAL | DOGTOWN





MAD RIVER UNION  
VOL. 11, No. 52 ◆ 10 PAGES ◆ WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 ◆ EST. 2013 ◆ \$1 ◆ FIVE STAR FINAL ★★★★★

## Humb Climate Action Plan readied for public review

Daniel Mintz  
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – A draft version of Humboldt County’s plan to comply with greenhouse gas emission reduction mandates is nearing environmental review and getting initial rounds of public feedback.

The county’s Regional Climate Action Plan sets the agenda for how the county and its cities will meet state emission goals.

A state bill – SB 32 – mandates emissions reductions of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

But at that point, the state would still be adding carbon to the atmosphere so additional goals – also set by state laws – are to have all passenger vehicles be zero emission by 2035 and to have all sale of electrical power be from renewable or zero emission sources by 2045.

Humboldt County’s part in it is outlined in the draft plan, which sets forth measures to reduce annual emissions by 220,000 metric tons.

CLIMATE ◆ PAGE 3



ROUNABOUT A visualization. IMAGE VIA CITY OF ARCATA

## Traffic shift coming at new Bayside roundabout

CITY OF ARCATA

BAYSIDE – A traffic shift will occur on Thursday, Sept. 19 at the intersection of Old Arcata Road and Jacoby Creek Road to accommodate the construction of a new roundabout.

The contractor, GR Sundberg Inc, will temporarily shift the traffic patterns to a configuration similar to the final roundabout.

This shift is necessary to establish a safe work zone for the public and

workers while continuing the construction of the roundabout for the City’s Old Arcata Road Improvement Project.

The traditional path of travel at the intersection will be altered.

Temporary signage, channelizers and markings will be used to delineate the new route. Similar to the other roundabouts in the city, traffic will flow in a counterclockwise di-

ROUNABOUT ◆ PAGE 4



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AS RIBBONS FALL, NEW FACILITIES COME ONLINE



**NEW AND IMPROVING**  
Above, the new Carlson Park playground officially opened Friday. Left, the city’s new water tank was dedicated. Right, creative destruction in progress at the Arcata Ball Park.  
PHOTOS BY MATT FILAR | UNION



## Supes applaud ‘huge’ change in county finance management

Daniel Mintz  
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – Humboldt County’s latest financial audit report shows improvements and county officials are describing the change as highly important.

An outside consultant presented the county’s most recent audit to the Board of Supervisors at its Sept. 10 meeting.

The audit has only two findings of “material weakness,” compared to five in the previous audit.

“The county’s making a lot of progress cleaning up

findings from prior years, so we’re happy to see that,” said Rich Gonzalez of the CliftonLarsonAllen LLP auditing firm.

Improvements from prior audits include better management of trust funds, with the county doing “a really good job reconciling transfers and identifying them” this year, he continued.

Supervisors praised the work of county Auditor-Controller Cheryl Dillingham, who took office in July of 2022 following

FINANCES ◆ PAGE 3

## eureka chamber music series



### An American Night at the Opera

**Mainstage Concert**

**Saturday, September 21 at 7:30**

Eureka’s Calvary Lutheran Church

**Concert & Conversation**

**Sunday, September 22 at 3:00**

Lutheran Church of Arcata

Featuring the music of George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, and Leonard Bernstein!

[eurekachambermusic.org](http://eurekachambermusic.org) for advance tickets

After a six-year absence, I’m back at the North Country Fair on Sept. 21 and 22. Come by and say hello!



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## New, improved in Arcata

MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – As more red ribbons floated earthward at last week’s end, Arcatans beheld the latest changes, some still in progress, to their fabled land.

• Carlson Park now has a river-themed playground, pickleball courts, a special event and picnic area, parking, riparian and river access trails with wildlife viewing and fishing, with new skate features, interpretive and wayfinding signage plus special events to come.

• The Tank-1C project improves the City of Arcata’s water infrastructure with a new one million gallon steel water tank with an additional 2,300 linear feet of 10-inch water main line pipe.

• The Arcata Ball Park Improvement Project’s current focus is accessibility to the grassy seating area in left field and to modernize the entryway, circulation, sight distance and identity for the Ball Park façade.

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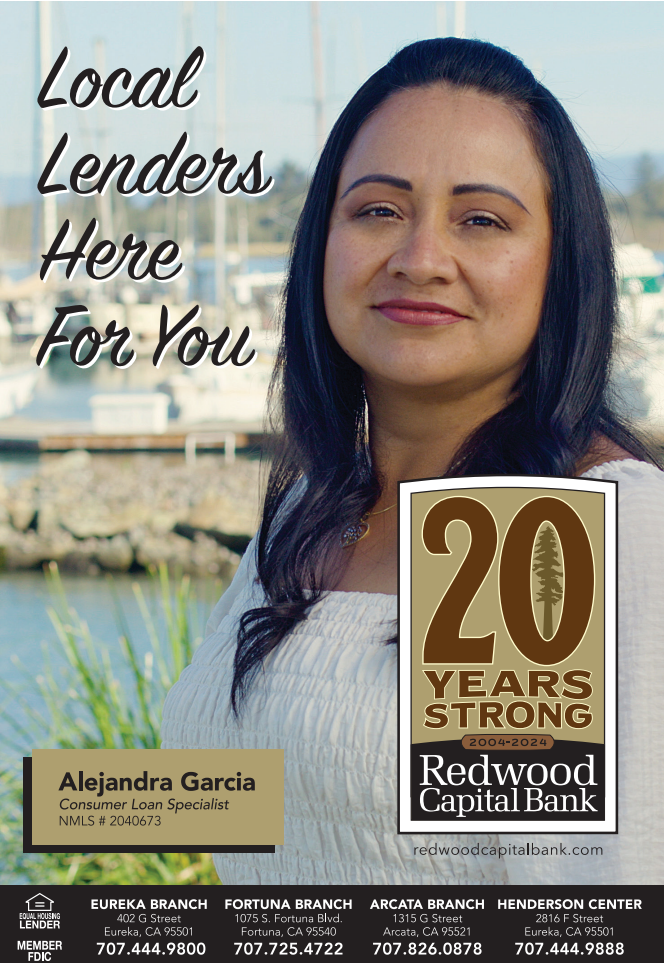
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# Arcata Youth Basketball League registration opens

**CITY OF ARCATA**  
ARCATA – Registration for Arcata Recreation 2025 Youth Basketball League opens on Monday, Sept. 30.  
This program is offered to first to sixth graders. Arcata's Youth Basketball program is committed to providing a fun and safe learning environment, while focusing on skill development and sportsmanship.  
Beginning the week of Jan. 6, teams practice one night per week for one hour at the Arcata Community Center.  
Specific days and times will be determined by

coaches.  
Games are played on Saturdays, Jan. 18 to March 8 (no games on Feb. 15).  
Register online at [cityofarcata.org/rec](http://cityofarcata.org/rec) or through the Recreation office.  
The registration fee includes a team t-shirt.  
Scholarships covering a percentage of the activity fee are available to youth from income qualifying households.  
Contact the Recreation Division for more information on how to apply for the scholarship.  
Registration closes once the division is full or no later than Monday, Nov. 25. Please be aware that some divisions do fill quickly. Register early to guarantee a spot!

Interested in coaching? Want to sponsor a team?  
This program would not be successful without awesome community members stepping up to help teach sportsmanship and fundamentals of the sport.  
Please contact Recreation Supervisor Evan Stork at [estork@cityofarcata.org](mailto:estork@cityofarcata.org) to get involved!  
Contact [rec@cityofarcata.org](mailto:rec@cityofarcata.org) or (707) 822-7091 or visit [cityofarcata.org/rec](http://cityofarcata.org/rec).

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Pastor Chuck Clark

Coffee/fellowship at 10 a.m.  
Traditional worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m. Wednesday (Sept. through May)

839-2625  
1645 Fischer Rd., McKinleyville



❖ RAIN WEEK DATE	INCHES OF RAIN	SINCE OCT. 1	LAST YEAR	NOR-MAL
Sunday, Sept. 8	00.00	48.32	40.92	39.84
Monday, Sept. 9	T	48.32	40.92	39.84
Tuesday, Sept. 10	00.00	48.32	40.92	39.86
Wednesday, Sept. 11	00.03	48.35	40.92	39.87
Thursday, Sept. 12	00.00	48.35	40.92	39.89
Friday, Sept. 13	00.00	48.35	40.92	39.91
Saturday, Sept. 14	00.01	48.36	40.92	39.93

RAIN AS MEASURED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AT WOODLEY ISLAND.  
WEATHER YEAR STARTS ON OCT. 1.

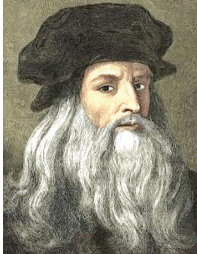
# KEET, Kiwanis, Library offer Leonardo da Vinci Day fun

**KEET-TV**  
EUREKA – KEET-TV, in partnership with the Humboldt County Library and the McKinleyville Kiwanis Club, invites you to Leonardo da Vinci Day – a fun, hands-on event celebrating the genius of da Vinci and the Eureka Library, 1313 Third St., Eureka.  
This special day supports the upcoming PBS documentary *Leonardo da Vinci*, a two-part, four-hour film directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Burns, and David McMahon, airing on Nov. 18 and 19 from 8 to 10 p.m.

**Event highlights**  
• 11 a.m. – Kick things off with a kid-friendly 10-minute screening in the large room to the left as you enter the library. Perfect for younger viewers or those seeking a quick intro to da Vinci's life and work.  
• Noon – Dive deeper with a half-hour preview of the full *Leonardo da Vinci* documentary. Afterward, join a panel discussion exploring da Vinci's legacy and how his work continues to inspire. The screening will give you a sneak peek of the fascinating ideas and innovations that da Vinci pioneered.  
Da Vinci-Themed STEAM Stations (Hands-On Fun for Kids!): From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., kids can explore interactive Da Vinci / STEAM projects created by Ken Pinkerton (retired teacher) and Shoshanna,

the Youth Services Outreach Coordinator at Humboldt County Library.  
Here's a preview of some of the exciting activities:  
• Flying – Wings of Imagination: Build and test paper planes and twirling devices to learn about aerodynamics!  
• Anatomy – Inside Out: The Human Body: Explore human anatomy through 3D models, light cube X-rays, and tactile felt kits.  
• Bridges – Build-a-Bridge: Collaborate to build large bridges and experiment with mini bridge-building kits!

• Parachutes – Perfect Parachutes: Design parachutes using coffee filters and test how soft your design can land.  
• Boats – Buoyant Boats: Craft aluminum foil boats and see how many marbles your boat can hold before sinking!  
• Backward Writing – Mirror, Mirror: Leonardo's Secret Writing: Try your hand at da Vinci's famous backward writing style using a mirror!  
• Trebuchet – Pom Pom Launch: Build mini trebuchets and launch pom-poms across the room—how far can you go?  
Join us for a day filled with creativity, learning and fun, all in the spirit of Leonardo da Vinci!  
To register, visit [KEET.org](http://KEET.org) or [DaVinciDay.eventbrite.com](http://DaVinciDay.eventbrite.com).



Leonardo da Vinci



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# HAF+WRCF accepting apps for Holiday Funding grants

**HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION**  
HUMBOLDT – Humboldt Area Foundation + Wild Rivers Community Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2024 Holiday Funding Partnership grant program.  
The Holiday Funding Partnership offers small grants of \$500 to \$2,000 to organizations that assist underserved residents of Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity and Curry counties. Grant funds support holiday assistance programs offered between Nov. 15 and Jan. 1. Applications are due by Oct. 1, 2024.  
The grant program's funding partners include the Mel & Grace McLean Foundation, the Patricia D. & William B. Smullin Foundation and Providence

Community Health Investment.  
In 2023, HAF+WRCF awarded 60 grants totaling nearly \$76,000 to charitable organizations. Recipients include organizations like the Dream Quest – Willow Creek Youth Partnership, which used the funds to support its 2023 Holiday Giving effort.  
In Eureka, the Westside Community Improvement Association received funding for its Gratitude Gathering and harvest bag distribution program. The food was purchased from the North Coast Growers Association.  
The Holiday Funding Partnership application is available at [hafoundation.org/apply](http://hafoundation.org/apply)

**DEMS OF THE YEAR** The Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee is pleased to announce State Senator Mike McGuire as our Democrat of the Year for 2024 and local political activist Dani Burkhart as Young Democrat of the Year for 2024. This year's event takes place Saturday, Sept. 28 with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. at the Historic Eagle House, 139 Second St. in Old Town Eureka. A live auction by the Senator follows dinner. Visit [humboldtDemocrats.com](http://humboldtDemocrats.com) and get your tickets. Space is limited.

**CANDIDATE CHRIS ROGERS AT THE SANCTUARY** The Humboldt Chapters of Health Care for All-California and Physicians for a National Health Program are hosting an in-person "meet and greet" with District 2 Assembly candidate Chris Rogers Monday, Sept. 23 at 1 p.m. at The Sanctuary, 1301 J St., Arcata. The public is invited to show their support, ask the candidate questions and hear his positions and plans for our district after his election in November. Refreshments will be served.

## ❖ Correction

A story last week stated that Arcata City Council candidate Genevieve Serna did campaign tabling at this year's Arcata Bay Oyster Festival, which is incorrect at the OysterFest doesn't allow political activity. Serna tabled at the Fourth of July Jubilee. Apologies to the candidate for the error.

**Wildwood Music**

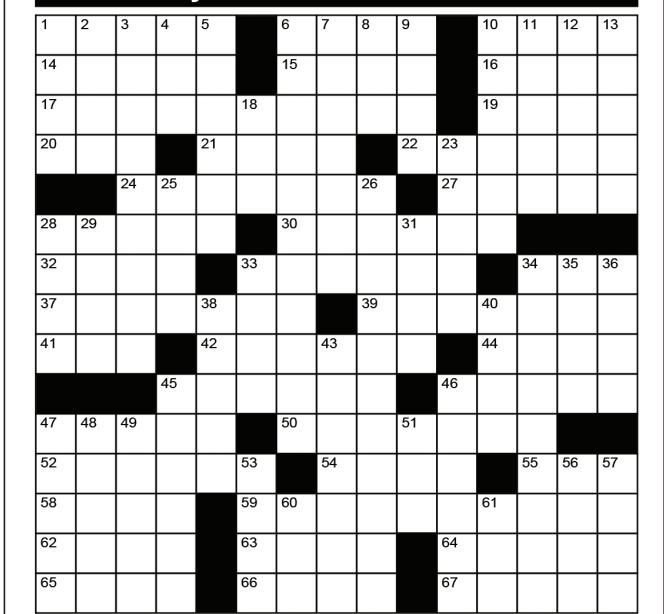
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**The Weekly Crossword** by Margie E. Burke



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**ACROSS**  
1 Perching places  
6 Tomb-raiding Croft  
10 "\_\_\_ that special?!"  
14 Parting word  
15 Versed in  
16 Have words (with)  
17 Diverse populace  
19 Volcano flow  
20 Good buddy  
21 Forum wear  
22 Far from fearless  
24 "Maggie May" singer Rod  
27 Sprain site  
28 Cast a ballot  
30 Actor Depardieu  
32 Vitamin additive  
33 Mammal's coat  
34 Most "Esquire" readers  
37 Adam of "Hustle"  
39 Nazi police  
41 Ginger \_\_\_  
42 Goes away  
44 Battery fluid  
45 Did the tango  
46 Common sci-fi setting  
47 Pressing need?

50 Made booties, maybe  
52 Plaid fabric  
54 Drop from the eye  
55 Goings-on  
58 Assist in wrongdoing  
59 Like some glasses  
62 Spanish Steps city  
63 Mideast's Gulf of \_\_\_  
64 Aquatic nymph  
65 Little hopper  
66 Lothario's look  
67 Things to strive for  
**DOWN**  
1 Tiffany product  
2 Creative spark  
3 Heavy burden  
4 Poker play  
5 Fit  
6 Samsonite stand  
7 Shirts and skirts  
8 Pooh pal  
9 Picnic crashers  
10 Cuba or Aruba  
11 Kindle  
12 Orange variety  
13 Kind of show  
18 Right this minute  
23 Worries  
25 Keep an eye on  
26 Lady Macbeth portrayer, e.g.  
28 Traveler's need, maybe  
29 Rev. Roberts glasses  
31 Forever and a day  
33 Part of a hammerhead  
34 Australian nut  
35 Sweeping  
36 Focal point  
38 Camel's kin  
40 VCR insert  
43 Opposite of dorsal  
45 Made sudden moves  
46 Yo-yo need  
47 TV spy Maxwell  
48 Social no-no  
49 Plant malady  
51 Road goo  
53 Drive off  
56 It may be raw  
57 Better's concern  
60 Texter's "Holy moly!"  
61 \_\_\_ Zedong



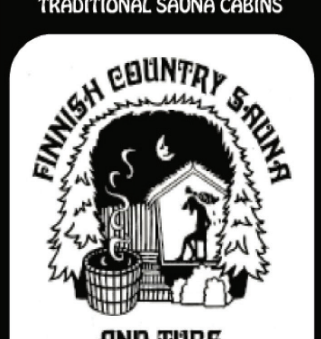
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Give a dog a shelter vacation

As a “foster failure,” I want to add to the letter from Connie Smith last week about the wonderful job Mara is doing as volunteer coordinator for the Humboldt County Animal Shelter and urge folks to consider fostering dogs.

❖ LETTER TO DOGTOWN

We fostered Izzy, who became quite the shelter celebrity for his recovery after being brought to the shelter as a very sick puppy.

Although we did end up adopting him, there are many dogs who just need a place to spend some time away from the shelter to both give them a break and allow folks to hear about what a dog is like in a home environment.

So, you needn’t be concerned about adopting but you can consider opening your home and heart to give a dog a shelter vacation.

And please, if you are looking for a dog, consider rescuing one from the shelter. It may take a little more energy than getting that puppy on Craigslist or wherever, but you save a life.

Barbara Brimlow  
McKinleyville



Sac Kings, Paskenta Mad River Brewing team up

**PASKENTA MAD RIVER BREWERY**

BLUE LAKE – Ahead of the 2024-25 NBA season, Paskenta Mad River Brewery, a tribally owned brewery, has announced a new partnership with the Sacramento Kings. As part of the collaboration, the brewery will be integrated into in-game activations and theme nights as well as a visual presence in-arena via signage for Kings games and concerts and special samplings for fans.

The Humboldt County based brewery shared their enthusiasm about plans on the horizon, including a continued effort to deepen its roots in the Northern California region, driving diversity in the craft beer industry and professional sports. The tribal brewery, owned by The Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians, is one of first tribal breweries in the Unites States, making national headlines in sports when it forged ties with the San Francisco Giants in 2022, a first-of-its-kind partnership between a tribally owned brewery and a professional baseball team.

“A partnership with the Sacramento Kings is a natural fit. We love the sport of basketball, as well as the Kings fan base and community. Craft beer has so much history in Northern California, and partnering with a local team with a massive platform is a key part in sharing our craft,” said Linda Cooley, general manager of Paskenta Mad River Brewery. “It is inspiring, working with partners who

understand our vision and are excited about what we are doing to transform craft beer and sports.”

The brewery, which has released several new products tied to environmental and social endeavors in the past few years, forges onward, continuing on a path to center Indigenous voices and initiatives.

“We are thrilled to partner with the Kings, elevating Indigenous visibility and opportunity,” said Tribal Chairman Andrew “Dru” Alejandre. “This partnership highlights the forward progress we are making, in Indian Country and beyond.”

In November 2021, The Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians opened The Paskenta Brewery and Distillery, becoming the first tribal-owned distillery in California. With the acquisition of Paskenta Mad River Brewery earlier this year, the Tribe is expanding their brand and leading the way for Native American craft beer and spirits. The brewery, which has been producing award-winning ales since 1989, has been recognized more recently for their social and environmental impact and unique craft products. In 2020 they released a hard seltzer line, Undammed, a hard seltzer made with hops, named in tribute to the largest dam removal in US history. In 2023, they introduced a new beer style, an Indigenous Ale, supporting regenerative agriculture and inter-tribal commerce.

The adventures of Leo, Stitch and Horchata

Last weekend we went to a family fun event at Carl Johnson’s. We’d been asked to bring some dogs that kids could come and pet. It seemed like a good debut event for our two pairs of Redwood Pals puppies and an easy dog or two from the shelter. We let them know that the dogs probably weren’t up for an eight-hour outing, but that we could do three hours midday.

On Saturday we packed up some toys and treats, blankets and water bowls. As I set up, the pups arrived and immediately we were joined by a passel of puppy-lovers!

Leo and Stitch were on leashes while Dolly and Duke settled on to a blanket in a pen. The puppies did so well with all the kids! We were impressed with how nicely the kids approached the pups, asking first if they might pet them and then going slow.

A little later in the morning we were joined by the charming Horchata. Horchata loved the crowd, loved the puppies, loved the toys! She was a perfect addition to the event. Our last participant was Robbie, a handsome teenage pup from the shelter. I don’t think Robbie had ever been anywhere like that before,

but he quickly caught on and accepted treats and pets from everyone.

We stayed until all the puppies had run out of steam and were asleep for their afternoon naps. Horchata would have been good for hours more, but willingly packed up when asked. We just love seeing how well the dogs do out in public!

Next weekend we will be at Coldwell Banker Sellers Realty, 10th and G streets in Arcata, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a collection of adoptable dogs.

A little more about some of the dogs we took: Leo and Stitch are two beautiful five-month-old puppies that came to us after being found abandoned in a box. We believe that they may be a mix of Catahoula Leopard Hound and Sharpei, based on their coloring and their

unusual faces. These puppies have been in foster for awhile as we got to know them.

These puppies are pretty special! They have been easy houseguests for their foster parents. They have regular visits from the neighborhood kids and have lots of friends among the neighbor dogs. One of their special (and silly) talents is that they can climb into a hammock! They are doing well in their leash training and have not been destructive in the yard or house.

Stitch, the female, has more of the Sharpei characteristics – large muzzle, wrinkly forehead – and that resulted in a condition called entropion, where the eyelid rolls inward. Stitch had surgery to correct that and she can now see so much better! She was a great sport through the surgery and recovery. These cuties are now ready for adoption and would love to meet you!

Please contact us at



Horchata.  
MARA SEGAL | DOGTOWN

redwoodpalsrescue@gmail.com or leave a voicemail at (707) 633-8842 for more information.

Perpetually happy Horchata will make a great companion for a family or individual. She has met children of all ages, between the weekend’s event and a recent visit with some high-schoolers at the shelter.

Horchata loves to play and will happily self-entertain by tossing a toy in the air but will just as happily play with a dog or human friend. Horchata’s sturdy little body and upright ears inspire people to say she looks like the Target dog.

We think she is just under a year old. She walks well on the leash and knows some obedience training. Horchata has been spayed, microchipped, heartworm tested and is current on her vaccinations. To meet this fun pup, please call the Humboldt County Shelter at (707) 840-9132.



Stitch and Leo.  
BETH ERQUHART | DOGTOWN

Climate | Increasing use of renewable energy, composting

❖ FROM PAGE 1

The plan and its strategies were presented during a Sept. 10 public meeting held at Eureka’s Wharfinger Building and simulcast online.

County and city governments and agencies will collaborate on carrying out the plan.

Erica Linard of Rincon Consultants, the planning firm contracted to supervise environmental review, said creation of a multi-jurisdictional Regional Climate Committee is a “cornerstone measure” and a prerequisite for gaining funding.

“What’s important about it is that it leverages limited resources and creates synergy between efforts that are being done in different communities,” she continued.

Other measures in the plan include “building electrification” including renewable and zero emissions sources. That will eventually be supported by the offshore wind energy planned for an area off the Eureka coast.

Vehicle use produces 73 percent of Humboldt’s carbon emissions and Linard said a mix of actions will address it, including expanding opportunities for “alternative modes of transportation” and improving public transit.

She said the Humboldt Transit Authority already has “some very strong goals and efforts underway to increase public transit across the community.”

Developing infrastructure for zero emission vehicles is also in the plan, as is transitioning away from diesel fuel.

Linard said the latter measure is relevant to off-road vehicle use, which ac-

counts for eight percent of the county’s 1.5 million metric tons of annual carbon emissions.

Diverting organic waste from distant landfills is another measure.

Carbon sequestration is also a significant factor and Humboldt has strong potential for getting emissions reduction credit for it.

But Linard said the degree to which the county’s natural resources absorb carbon is “likely a lot” and needs to be quantified.

The meeting was pre-planned and unknowingly scheduled the same night as the presidential debate so public attendance was sparse.

But issues raised included viability of funding, enforcement of the plan’s measures, over-reliance on biofuels, the absence of emissions from refrigerants in the plan’s emissions estimates and the variability of commitment to reducing emissions among the county’s cities.

The day of the meeting, the county’s Board of Supervisors approved the draft plan for environmental review.

Planning Director John Ford said the plan’s implementation is already happening though the work of agencies like the Redwood Coast Energy Authority.

An important element of the plan – increasing use of renewable energy -- is “something that RCEA is very much engaged in,” he continued.

The plan calls for creating a local organic waste processing facility, as Ford noted that the county now trucks its organic waste to a facility 400 miles away.

Supervisor Steve Madrone said processed organic waste can have value and it should be dealt with locally.

“If we’re shipping anything, it ought to be value-added – it ought to be a fertilizer product,” he continued.

The plan’s measures are location-specific, as there’s differentiation between urban and rural areas.

During a public comment period, Colin Fiske of the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities questioned the plan’s definition of urban and rural.

“The definition doesn’t make much sense – it calls anything outside of the city limits of Eureka, Arcata or Fortuna rural and it doesn’t account for population density or any other relevant characteristics,” he said. “I think it’s pretty clear that places like Cutten, Myrtle-town and McKinleyville are not really rural.” He added that “pretending that they are” may exempt them from “pulling their weight” of emissions reduction but could also under-serve them when it comes to public transit and trail development.

Discussing make-up of the Regional Climate Committee, supervisors agreed it should mirror the Humboldt County Association of Governments, which administers transportation funding.

Comments on the latest version of the Climate Action Plan will be taken until Sept. 20. But more public comment opportunities will open as the county prepares and drafts an Environmental Impact Report.

A final EIR is expected to be approved in June of 2025.

Finance | An ‘amazing job’

❖ FROM PAGE 1

controversy and debate about the office’s management.

The audit covers county finances for the 2021 to 2022 fiscal year.

That period predates Dillingham’s taking office but it’s the third audit she’s completed, as accounting deadlines weren’t met in prior years and the county is now in a phase of catching up on audits.

Board Chair Rex Bohn said fi-

nances are now “almost completely under control” and auditing is on track to be current by next year.

County Administrative Officer Elishia Hayes said the return to timely auditing is a significant achievement.

“If you don’t speak ‘auditor,’ you probably don’t understand the magnitude of the work and accomplishments demonstrated in this audit,” she continued.

She said it puts the county “in a more reputable position with our peer agencies” and opens financing for overdue projects like facility renovations.

Supervisor Steve Madrone credited Dillingham with doing an “amazing job” and said the improved financial management betters the county’s credit rating and, ultimately, its budget situation.

The positive implications are “huge,” he added.

Supervisors unanimously voted

to receive and file the audit report and a ‘corrective action plan’ to address the findings.

One of the findings is that the finances of the Fortuna Fire Protection District, whose board is appointed by county supervisors, didn’t include the district’s Volunteer Fire Department component and weren’t done under the correct accounting method.

The other finding is that the county didn’t record \$7.6 million in federal emergency funding due to

the gap between federal approval of the funding and getting reimbursed for the projects done.

The audit says the funding should be logged when federal approval is gained instead of when costs are reimbursed.

The flaws aren’t major and the reduction of findings is notable.

Supervisor Michelle Bushnell alluded to a turnaround, saying, “I never hear ‘auditor’ in a bad context anymore and it’s so nice.”

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF ARCATA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**  
**October 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Zoning Administrator of the City of Arcata will conduct a Public Hearing on Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Arcata City Council Chambers, at 736 F Street, Arcata for a Tree Removal Permit.  
**Project Description:** The proposed project

requests the removal of eight trees greater than 16” in diameter and two trees less than 16” in diameter from a 0.5 acre residential parcel. Seven trees will be retained. A CalFire Structure Protection Exemption pursuant to CCR 1038 (c) will be sought after the City’s action on this permit.  
**Project Location:** 3500 McMillan Ct. Arcata. At the end of McMillan Ct about 480 feet from the McMillan Drive and McMillan Court intersection.  
**Assessor’s Parcel**

**Number:** 507-501-006  
**Application Type:** Tree Removal Permit  
**Property Owner/ Applicants:** Bockover, Mary and Scofield, Daniel  
**Agent:** William Kleiner, RPF  
**File Number:** 234-031-TRP  
**Zoning / General Plan:** Residential Very Low Density  
**Coastal Zone:** Not in Coastal Zone.  
**Environmental:** The project may qualify for a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

exemption pursuant to section 15251(a) for timber harvest operations by the California Department of Forestry and the State Board of Forestry. The exemption applies to projects that are subject to a “certified state regulatory program” and are considered a functional equivalent to CEQA environmental review. The project may also qualify for a CEQA Categorical Exemption Class 4(i) – Minor Alterations to Land, consists of minor

alterations in the condition of the land, water, and/ or vegetation to manage fuels and reduce fire risk.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the information regarding the proposed project and environmental determination may be reviewed at the Community Development Department at Arcata City Hall, 736 F St, Arcata on Monday – Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Contact: Joe Mateer, Senior Planner.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Zoning

Administrator will consider public comment, and the entire public record on the project, prior to making any decision.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that this action is appealable to the Planning Commission. In compliance with §9.76.030 of the City’s Land Use Code, any aggrieved person who, in person, in writing, or by representative, informed the City of their concerns at or before the hearing or decision may appeal a final action by the review

authority. Appeals must be filed within 10 business days following the date of the action by filing an appeal, along with the applicable fee.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that, pursuant to §1094.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure, “If you challenge City action on a proposed project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the hearing

body at, or prior to, the public hearing(s).”  
**HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public may attend the meeting in-person to give their comment, or before the meeting by sending an email to jmateer@cityofarcata.org. Emailed comments WILL NOT be read during the meeting, they will be forwarded to the Zoning Administrator and included in the written record of the meeting.  
9/18



**NO PETS PLEASE**



# McKinleyville: As much sometimes-serious fun as anyone could possibly process

The McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee (McKMAC) is asking for the public's assistance to help design temporary road improvements along a section of Hiller Road.

The McKMAC will hold a meeting Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. at Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd. in McKinleyville to gather input on what's being called a "quick-build project." The purpose is to slow down traffic on Hiller Road and make it more friendly for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The McKMAC and the public will give input to representatives of Humboldt County Public Works, which create a design and then seek funding for the project.

For an agenda and Zoom link, visit [humboldt.gov/238/McKinleyville-Municipal-Advisory-Committ](https://humboldt.gov/238/McKinleyville-Municipal-Advisory-Committ).

**McKMAC, MCSD joint meeting**  
The McKinleyville Municipi-

pal Advisory Committee and the McKinleyville Community Services District will hold a joint meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. at Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd. in McKinleyville.

Topics will include the McKinleyville Town Center, the new McKinleyville Community Forest and incorporation.

**McK chamber mixer**  
The McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce monthly mixer takes place Thursday, Sept. 26 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the McKinleyville Teen Center, 1705 Gwin Rd. in McKinleyville.

The mixer is hosted by the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods. There will be food, refreshments, prizes and more.

**Goodbye Hiller mobile**  
The McKinleyville Community Services District has declared the

1988 Fleetwood Mobile Home that was previously used as a caretaker's residence at Hiller Park as surplus. The staff member who lived in the home has moved away.

The caretaker looked over the park, locked and unlocked the bathrooms and opened and closed the parking lot gate.

MCSD staff is looking at using an electronic gate and electronic bathroom locks.

As for the mobile home, the cost of upgrades would exceed the value that the district received from renting it to a caretaker.

The district has found a company that will haul the mobile home away at no expense.

The decision was approved by the MCSD Board of Directors at its Sept. 4 meeting.

**McK snake escapes McK crows**  
In the early afternoon of Sept. 3, a common garter snake slithered through an empty parking space at the McKinleyville Shopping Center near Ramone's.

Suddenly, it was confronted by a crow.

The snake froze and the crow danced around it, cawing. Two more crows arrived to help out.

The snake was surrounded by the triumvirate, but suddenly wiggled, scaring off one of the crows before slipping away into the safety of some nearby landscaping.

**Aviation Committee**  
Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee meets on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. on the second floor of the ACV Terminal, 3561 Boeing Ave. in McKinleyville.

Visit [flyacv.com/200/Humboldt-County-Aviation-Advisory-Commit](https://flyacv.com/200/Humboldt-County-Aviation-Advisory-Commit) for an agenda and a Zoom link.

**Gymkhana at rodeo grounds**  
The Smoking Aces Horse Association will hold its second Gymkhana Buckle Series Saturday, Sept. 21 and Sunday, Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the McKinleyville Rodeo Grounds on Kjer Road in McKinleyville.

Signups are from 9 to 9:45 a.m. and riding starts at about 11 a.m.

For information call Shannon at (707) 496 1766, email [smokin\\_gaceshorseassoc@gmail.com](mailto:smokin_gaceshorseassoc@gmail.com) or find the group on Facebook.

**McK Farmers' Market**  
The McKinleyville Farmers' Market takes place every Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. through Oct. 31 at Eureka Natural Foods, 2165 Central Ave. in McKinleyville.

(If you have an event or news item that you would like included in McKinleyville Matters, send an email to [jack@madriverunion.com](mailto:jack@madriverunion.com).)



**PARK ACV** A rendering of the completed ACV parking lot.

McKINLEYVILLE – Early this summer, the Humboldt County Department of Aviation began conducting a long-overdue major rehabilitation project of the paid parking lots at the California Redwood Coast-Humboldt County Airport (ACV) in McKinleyville.

Parking will continue to be impacted during construction, which is expected to last through mid-November.

Once this project is completed, parking at ACV will provide modern, quick and user-friendly services for passengers. Improvements will include new parking lot surfaces, an increased number of ADA-accessible spaces, electric vehicle (EV) charging availability, quicker parking lot entry and exit and 40 percent more parking spaces than were previously available.

Construction of the first two phases of this project is nearly complete and work on Phase III is anticipated to start in mid-October. Completion of Phase III is expected by mid-November.

At this time, the majority of the main paid parking area at ACV remains closed to the public. However, limited paid parking is available in overflow parking lots. It is expected that most of the main paid

parking lot will be open for public use beginning Monday, Oct. 14. Overflow parking lots will also be available as needed while Phase III is completed.

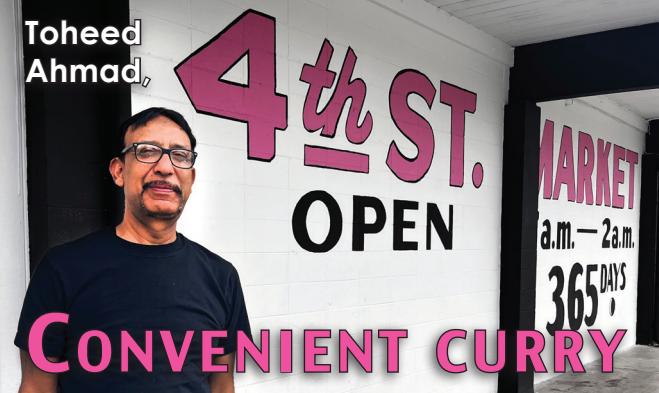
While work continues, the Department of Aviation encourages passengers to arrange for a ride to be dropped off and picked up for their flights to and from ACV. This will help reduce traffic at the airport and demand on the limited temporary paid parking lots during construction.

Ride services available include:

Lyft: [lyft.com](https://lyft.com)  
Door-to-Door Airporter: [acvairporter.com](https://acvairporter.com), call (707) 839-4186, text (707) 407-5528  
Humboldt Transit Authority Bus Service: [hta.org](https://hta.org), (707) 822-3775  
Uber: [uber.com](https://uber.com)  
City Cab: (707) 442-4551  
Cab Louie: (707) 599-3391  
Plaza Cab: (707) 822-4742

Lane closures in the vicinity of the ACV Terminal and associated construction traffic may cause congestion at times. Passengers should allow for extra time to get to and from the ACV Terminal. It is recommended to arrive one and half hours prior to departure for domestic flights and two hours before departure for international flight itineraries.

[FlyACV.com](https://flyacv.com)

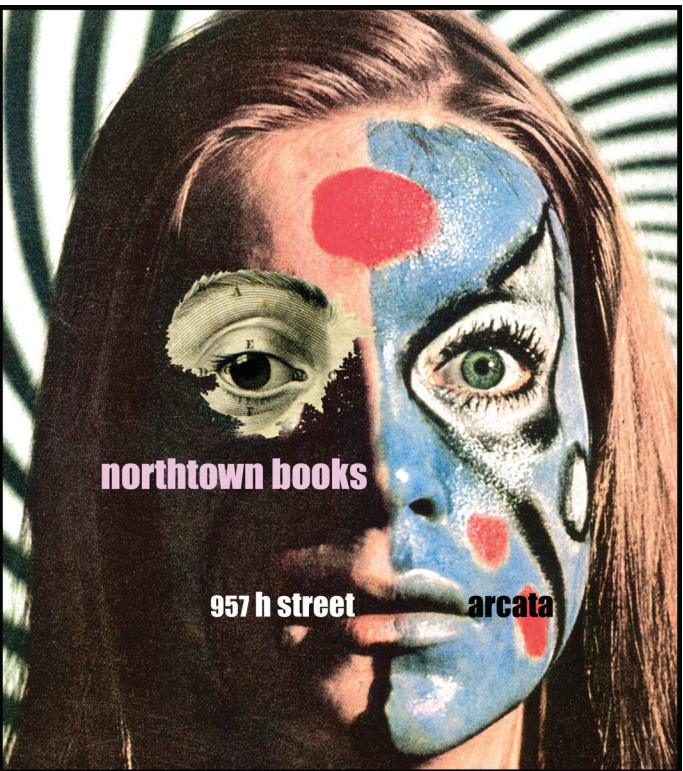


**PINK STREET MARKET** Curry In A Hurry is now up, running and serving a tasty selection of freshly prepared Indian dishes at Fourth Street Market. Genial owner Toheed Ahmad and chefs Maria Khalid and Maryam Naveed can serve you in the tiny in-store bistro, or



grab and go or DoorDash it home. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. (707) 407-5748, 781 Samoa Blvd. And in answer to the question everyone is asking – why did the store lose its iconic pink paint job? Toheed says its part of an overall image upgrade, which includes new lighting and overall cleaner look. But the lettering retains the classic hue. “We still have pink!” he notes.

PHOTOS BY KLH | UNION



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## McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee

Join us for our meeting focused on the

### Hiller Road Quick-Build\* Project design

Led by Tom Mattson and Bob Bronkall of HumCo Public Works

**When: Sept. 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm**  
**Where: Azalea Hall at Pierson Park**  
**(1620 Pickett Road, McKinleyville)**



\* Quick-Builds are temporary projects that test infrastructure changes to improve public spaces.



# CR announces Dolores Huerta Speaker Series on civic engagement and voting

COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS

EUREKA – College of the Redwoods (CR) will present the Dolores Huerta Speaker Series: The Power of Civic Engagement and Why Your Vote Matters, a series designed to inspire civic participation among students and the larger community and emphasize the importance of voting. Running from Sept. 18 to Oct. 22, the series will feature speakers and events aimed at empowering individuals to be active participants in democracy.

Here is a full list of events:

- Wednesday, Sept. 18 – “How I Got into Government” featuring Juan Pablo Cervantes (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Juan Pablo Cervantes, Humboldt County Clerk Recorder, will share his journey into public service. He will discuss how his rural upbringing shaped his approach to meeting voters where they are and will highlight the importance of accessibility in voting.
- Tuesday, Sept. 24 – “What’s on Your Ballot?” featuring Genevieve Serna (11 a.m. to noon)
- Genevieve Serna from the Humboldt County Office of Elections will break down key issues in the upcoming election. She will explain how ballot items are structured and emphasize the importance of informed voting. This session is ideal for voters wanting to be prepared before heading to the polls.
- Wednesday, Oct. 2 – “The Road to Elections” featuring Genevieve Serna and Nicole Goldbach (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Genevieve Serna and Nicole Goldbach, Humboldt County elections manager, will provide an inside look at how elections are organized. They will discuss the steps taken to ensure transparency and fairness in the voting process. This talk emphasizes the importance of public trust in election systems.
- Thursday, Oct. 3 – “Is it Sketch? Verifying Social Media Posts” featuring Dr. Kintay Johnson (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Dr. Kintay Johnson, director of student equity at CR, will offer tips on how to verify the accuracy of political information shared on social media. This session will address the growing problem of misinformation during election cycles and provide tools for becoming a more informed voter.
- Monday, Oct. 7 – “Unbiased Proposition Explanations” featuring Dr. Kintay Johnson (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Dr. Johnson returns to offer a non-partisan breakdown of the local propositions on the ballot. This session is essential for voters seeking unbiased information before making decisions on important local initiatives.
- Tuesday, Oct. 8 – “Project 2025” featuring Dr. Ryan Emenaker (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Dr. Ryan Emenaker, Political Science professor at CR, will discuss Project 2025, a federal policy agenda proposed by the Heritage Foundation, aiming to reshape the executive branch to promote a conservative agenda. It includes plans to limit abortion access, mass deportations, censorship in schools, restrictions on LGBTQ rights, and reduced voting access.
- Tuesday, Oct. 15 – “Marginalized Voices” featuring Mark Taylor and Matthew McKinley (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Mark Taylor, coordinator for Cal Poly Humboldt’s Project Rebound, and Matthew McKinley, CR graduate and academic advisor at the Hoopa Education Center, will discuss their work with marginalized communities. Taylor, having served 21 years in prison and now an advocate for formerly incarcerated individuals, will share his journey and address barriers such as voting restrictions faced by the formerly incarcerated, while McKinley focuses on supporting Native American students.
- Tuesday, Oct. 22 – “Student Voices” featuring Danny Jimenez (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Danny Jimenez, ASCR vice president of Communications, will lead a discussion on student perspectives on civic engagement. He will explore how young people can get involved in shaping their communities through voting and activism, encouraging students to use their voices to drive meaningful change.

This speaker series is named in honor of Dolores Huerta, a legendary labor leader and civil rights activist who co-founded the United Farm Workers. Her famous slogan, “Sí, se puede” (Yes, we can), encapsulates the spirit of this series, reminding us that true democracy is achieved through active civic engagement and ensuring that all voices are heard.

CR President Dr. Keith Flamer is excited that CR will offer this opportunity to get together before the election, stating “I am proud that part of our mission at CR is to help to create engaged and conscientious citizens that are active participants in our democracy. I believe that this speaker series is a demonstration of that, and I am looking forward to the conversations it inspires.”

For more information on the Dolores Huerta Speaker Series, including specific locations and zoom links please visit [redwoods.edu/speakerseries](http://redwoods.edu/speakerseries)

# Our Space: where art inspires hope and community

Our Space is an inspiring program for unhoused individuals in Arcata. The folks there are making some beautiful art. They are also using art to support social change. Deeper still, sometimes their art saves lives.

Gabrielle Bacchus knows from personal experience how transformational this program can be. Less than a year ago, she was a client. She was depressed and living in her vehicle in Safe Parking.

At the time she didn’t think making art was the best use of her time, but then she met William Monk, who works at Our Space. “He treated me like a human being,” she says.

“The community and art-making gave me a sense of hope, and a reason to get out of the back of the van and do something other than lamenting,” says Bacchus. They set up couches and art supplies and lamps and tables. She was able to “sweep and sit on a couch like a regular person. You wouldn’t believe how those simple things can keep you connected,” she says. “Once those aren’t happening you get weird. It is surprising how little it takes to get people out of despair, to give them a glimmer of hope. Where do you go without hope?”

Our Space feeds people (and their dogs), offers coffee, sup-



OUR SPACE CADETS Niell, William Monk, Caroline Griffith, Gabrielle Bacchus, Alex Jay and Jackie Dandeneau. RUTHI ENGELKE | ALL THINGS ART



SHELL-READY Our Space Zines Turtle in progress. RUTHI ENGELKE | ALL THINGS ART



FUELING INSPIRATION Gabrielle Bacchus in the kitchen, Alex Jay behind her, RUTHI ENGELKE | ALL THINGS ART

plies art materials, and reminds people that they can be peaceful. It connects the camp community to the larger world. They provide the space to allow people to move toward a solution and allow them to feel better about themselves.

“Art is the air we breathe,” says William Monk. “Our pri-

Only when a human being is inspired will there be any change,” he says.

The group is currently working with James Hildebrand from the Arcata Playhouse and Caroline Griffith from the Northcoast Environmental Center on a giant turtle for the All Species Parade at the North Country Fair, Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.. The participants worked together to come up with the concept.

The Western Pond Turtle is native to our area, and was chosen by the group because the turtle carries its house on its back just like many of them do.

Hildebrandt built a metal frame for the shell which the artists are covering with pieces of an old tent and using papier-mâché to create the head and feet. The turtle will lay paper mache eggs as it traverses through the parade. Our Space participants have written their hopes and dreams on the eggs.

The group has published two zines full of artwork, poetry and stories. Laura Muñoz leads movement classes, and musicians come in with their own instruments or play the piano. Some people make jewelry. “It takes people a while to get into

the art supplies,” says Bacchus. “People will hang out and get coffee. It takes a while to get comfortable, but it’s nice to see their art progress, whether they will continue, or it is just about coping right now.” Cubbies are provided for folks to save their work and supplies.

“These are incredible people whose support systems have just failed. It doesn’t take much to get derailed and lose your way,” says Bacchus. “We offer a way for folks to get their footing.”

Humboldt County Associations of Governments, Playhouse Arts, Arcata House Partnership and the Northcoast Environmental Center work together to sponsor Our Space.

Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction is across the street and offers supplies and medical resources. Redwood Pals comes out to give vaccinations and pet exams, since many people come with dogs.

Alex Jay from the City of Arcata Community Ambassadors program is there regularly. The Community Ambassadors are a group of folks hired by the City of Arcata to serve as a helpful presence downtown. They act as mediators between Arcata Police and the community. They hand out sunscreen, pick up trash, connect folks with resources and help fill out forms. Ambassadors can de-escalate situations without involving police.

Our Space is open Wednesday and Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. and Friday from noon to 5 p.m. at the Arcata Presbyterian Church at 670 11th St., Arcata.

Volunteers and donations both financial and in-kind are always welcome. Sadly, much of the grant money that they had been receiving from Foundations is being redirected to urban areas, so they now rely mostly on donations.

# A Bridge Across Time: The North Country Fair, 1973-2024

At the time of the first North Country Fair there had not been a public event on the Arcata Plaza for three years. In spring of 1970, Henry Kissinger’s bombing of Cambodia had ignited “campus unrest” across the nation. Like now, administrators panicked, cops over-reacted, beat and jailed protestors. At Kent State four students were killed.

At Humboldt State, students brought their protest downtown where the Kiwanis were having their annual barbecue. Amid the conflict of cultures and generations, a young man started a fire at the entrance of the Bank of America—now the Cal Poly Campus Store—in emulation of the recently torched Isla Vista B of A (the bank was financing bases where bombers re-fueled).

The fire scorched the bank’s entry, the young man went to jail, and Arcata’s chief of police declared the Plaza closed to public gatherings

So Arcata was already divided when the freeway cut it in half. City Council members—five old white guys—were solidly behind it. So was HSU’s administration. Strange people had moved into town, opened shops that sold strange things. They mingled with students and faculty, became part of the college, even its radio station. Students graduated, then didn’t leave. Started strange businesses of their own.

Many of these people were against the freeway and organized to stop it, but it was too late. They got it reduced from eight to six lanes, but still the middle of town disappeared: entire blocks of old houses, a church, a restaurant, trees and gardens, apartments and residence halls. A neighborhood connecting college and town.

## ✦ LETTER

Stop at Six had a final meeting. After that bitter defeat, what could we do? One person – she was calling herself River at the time – said: We should give the town a party.

Inspired craziness. Just what we needed. But where?

Now it was 1973. Things were changing. The draft ended. 18-year-olds could vote. There was an Endangered Species Act. Ethnic Studies at the College. Liberals on the City Council. But Chief Gibson hadn’t changed.

There was another battle, and this time we won. The first North Country Fair was on the Autumn equinox of 1973. The Plaza filled with music, food, crafts and services, businesses and nonprofits, and the townspeople and the students partied and shopped, ate and danced, and saw themselves as one community.

The biggest obstacle was again presented by the city: a million-dollar insurance policy and a whopping bill to pay the police to watch us. But 80 booths paid \$25 each and the Fair broke even, mostly by not paying ourselves anything. And there was this: lots of local artists, musicians, services and food places had their beginning in those \$25 booths and on that play-for-nothing stage.

And there was also this: at the bottom of the homely mimeograph poster and application form: We believe the basis of our life and economy is cooperation and mutual aid. The directors of the fair – The Same Old People – expanded that to explicitly include social and environmental justice, and have exemplified it by half a century of voluntary service.

Now the North Country Fair goes on for two days, features three stages, two parades and over two hundred booths. Its budget seems enormous, but it still runs on a shoestring. Crafts people and artisans and nonprofits still struggle to stay solvent. Musicians play for a small honorarium. This year there will be opportunity for fairgoers to pay back the bands and keep the music alive – please contribute what you can.

Yet all these years later, the freeway and the college administration are still a divisive issue.

Caltrans has offered to atone for some of its massive ecological and social damage—\$148 million divided with San Diego and San Francisco to compensate for engineered apartheid. Arcata’s share will be small, but there is already a plan for more engineering – The Arcata Cap – to put five-acres of reinforced concrete over U.S. Highway 101, from 14th to 17th streets.

The administrators and trustees of the State University, on the other hand, are still using every means possible to isolate this public institution from the town—and from its own faculty and students. There is still more interest in power than education. More than ever, we need a college that is not afraid of the town – and a town that doesn’t try to fix all its problems with cement.

I call upon every one of us, students and townspeople, to remember and celebrate the spirit of the North Country Fair. Please join us on the Plaza on September 21 and 22 and greet the new season.

**Jerry Martien**  
Director Emeritus, The Same Old People  
**Eureka**



# OPINION

❖ Sign your letter to the Mad River Union with a real name and a city of origin, plus a phone number (which won't be published) for identity verification and send it to [opinion@madriverriverunion.com](mailto:opinion@madriverriverunion.com). Also, make paragraphs, spell check, don't double space and don't capitalize random words. Basically, don't use Martian punctuation and everything will be fine.

## The price of gasoline

The price of rent and groceries are two of the top three budget items for working Americans. The third is transportation. The price of gasoline at the pump affects everyone in Humboldt and all of the rural counties in California.

I have a weekly Zoom meeting with my relatives who live in Southern California, the San Francisco Bay Area and Central Oregon. The price we pay for gas is often a topic of discussion.

I am dismayed that we, in the Arcata-Eureka-McKinleyville area pay more for gas than LA or SF. Why is that?

I have been told it is because we are far away from refineries and the costs of transportation are to blame for the 30 to 50 cent

## ❖ LETTERS

price difference between our area and major areas of California.

With Oregon it is often more than a \$1 per gallon difference. I always buy Chevron gasoline so when I compare pricing it is the same type of gasoline. And I believed this fairy tale.

Then I went to Yosemite in July. The family went to Groveland, Calif., a small town on State Route 120 near the north entrance of Yosemite National Park.

SR 120 is a highway to nowhere which is closed much of the year due to snow in the higher elevations. Groveland is at the top of a ludicrous winding road that does not really support large trucks. And yet the

gasoline in Groveland is 40 to 50 cents a gallon cheaper. Why is that?

If our locally elected state and federal representation wants to do something for us, how about you address the price gouging on gasoline.

Many of the stations are owned by the same groups. Price fixing abounds in Humboldt County and Chevron had another year of record profits.

Thank you for listening,  
**Jan Phelps**  
Arcata

## A glaring absence

Much as I love public debate, particularly when it is organized by such august organizations as Cal Poly Humboldt and

CR, I was surprised and dismayed to note yet again the absence from next weekend's Israel-Palestine conference of what one would think would be a necessary component – the only Rabbi in Arcata.

Yet again, Rabbi Ellie was not asked to participate, as he has been not asked to participate in any public dialogue, thereby denying a large percentage of Arcata Jewish people a chance to have their opinions aired. Is there a reason that he is continually shut out?

I personally find it very discomfiting and saddening. It is already uncomfortable enough to be a Jewish person in Arcata right now, without the added discrimination.

**Jada Brotman**  
Arcata

# Great American Song Book with Claire/RLA, honoring Master Gardener Jill Mefford

“**L**a Vie en Claire” is the Third Friday Jazz program featuring vocalist Claire Bent interpreting The Great American Song Book on Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in Trinidad Town Hall.

The RLAD quartet featuring Tim Randles, piano; Ken Lawrence, bass; Micke LaBolle, drums; and Doug Marcus, guitar will back up Claire's selections.

\$10 to \$20 sliding scale admission. Refreshments available. Westhaven Center for the Arts produces the program. Email organizer Julianne Einem at [jeinem@sonic.net](mailto:jeinem@sonic.net) for details.



**Master Gardener Jill Mefford honored**  
Jill Mefford, Trinidad Museum Native Plant Garden expert, museum board member and docent

since 2005 was honored by her family, husband Dwain Mefford and sons Adam and Ethan Mefford and her fellow garden volunteers Ingrid Bailey, Mary Spinas Kline, Carol Mone, Virginia Waters, Carl Kalb, Maisa Kalb, Claire Perricelli, Gavin Scott, Karen Hildebrand and Jim Baker in Mary Kline's beautiful dahlia garden last week.

Jill's son Dylan, residing in Russia, couldn't make it but Ethan's friend, Madeleine, from Ohio on her way to Stanford, was able to meet Jill for the first time and hear her colleagues' appreciative plaudits.

Jill Mefford, Ron Johnson, Ingrid Bailey and Virginia Waters started nurturing the rock, clay and invasive weed infested land



**Honoring Jill Mefford in the dahlia garden.** SUBMITTED PHOTOS

surrounding the museum in 2005 and with years of care, planting and pruning based on a design by Nancy Rehg, turned it into the beautiful garden, complete with decomposed granite pathways, benches, an “air bee ‘n bee” hotel, bird and bat house, and a

vernal pond attractive to frogs, dragon flies, birds (the great blue herons can be inordinately fond of frog eggs) and salamanders.

Jill retired last year but her work and that of the volunteers who work every Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to noon and on other days goes on. The gardens are open to visitors at all times. Volunteer helpers always encouraged.

Email co-chairmen Ingrid at [ingridhaven@gmail.com](mailto:ingridhaven@gmail.com) or Mary at [humboldtmary@gmail.com](mailto:humboldtmary@gmail.com) to join in the rewards of gardening.

Email Patti at [baycity@sonic.net](mailto:baycity@sonic.net).

# Garden Coordinator Jesse Alm farms the Earth for environmental literacy

*Why try to explain miracles to your children when you can have them plant a garden?*

– Janet Kilburn Phillips

This is part 2 of my interview with Humboldt County Education School Garden Coordinator and Alice Birney Garden Teacher Jesse Alm.

This article is edited for clarity and length.

**Dana Utman:** Have you read the Climate-Resilient California School: A Call to Action by 50 Stakeholders? (*The first comprehensive report issued in March 2023 on climate impacts on schools and a call to action to help mitigate the effects, from Stanford Medicine's Center for Global Health, University of Berkeley Center for Cities and Schools and others.*) Do school gardens play a part of helping to make schools climate-resilient?

**Jesse Alm:** I think it's happening if kids are growing up with an intimate, loving relationship with a worm, or Hummingbird, or a tree or a shrub. They're developing a sense of ecoliteracy that's actually more meaningful than reading something out of a book. I love to read, but I learned by doing things. School gardens play a part of the gradient of school yards. One of the biggest things we're doing is getting more photosynthetic life forms on campus. Whether that's food, varying crops, flowering plants, or plants that attract beneficial insects, or medicinal plants. So much of the schools is turned into asphalt. But it can be bet-

ter for kids mentally to be around nature than an asphalt parking lot.

*Did Humboldt County get any money that was offered by the state, \$150 million in 2022 and \$117 million in 2023, to protect kids from extreme heat by greening schoolyards?*

Not to my knowledge, but it could have happened, and I didn't hear about it. I don't want to mislead anybody into thinking that we actually have a county wide school garden program. We don't, that's why they hired me. If we had one model, it might be that Humboldt County Office of Education hires more garden teachers, who work in a lot of different schools, with a manager who oversees, mentors and supports all those staff members in some way. I think a few of the schools have farm to school coordinators, getting more local fresh food to cafeterias, which is an amazing goal.

But it doesn't quite address kids learning in gardens at school, which is where I come in. What would a countrywide school garden program look like? That's a really good question. If there are people at a school, and they see no problem with everything being asphalt, it's probably not very fertile soil for a school garden, so to speak. I'm going to work somewhere where they do value it. So having administrative support is huge, like having Principal Kristin Sobilo at Alice Birney Elementary

School.

*In 2021 Pacific Union School stated that... “the ideas of food instability, food justice, and sharing produce will continue to be central to their garden curriculum.” Their objectives were to teach students to be “responsible stewards of our planet, lovers of the outdoors, and strong community members.” What's happened with their garden?*

I went to Pacific Union for nine years when I was a student. There was a garden in a different place than where it is now. Very few teachers actually utilized it. The only teacher that I remember ever having in the garden in the nine years that I was a student at Pacific Union was Guy Kutner. He was far and away the best teacher I ever had in my life, and his wife Cindy is a dear friend of mine. I have a picture of me and Guy framed next to my bed.

He took us to the [Arcata



marsh every Wednesday where we went bird watching. We made nature journals, we did theater and my magic show. He was the epitome of “I'm going to meet you where you're at.” You were the garden, and he was going to fertil-

ize you, help you thrive and come alive in whatever way you naturally wanted to. He was basically a Montessori inspired teacher, but he was working in a public school, which is why he met so much resistance. He was kind of a rabble rouser.

I think, to honestly answer your question, about how we are teaching about climate change, you can instill in kids from a very young age that there is value in learning how to be a steward of this planet. Many local indigenous leaders have talked about stewarding the land for thousands of years.

We belong to the Earth, it's not the Earth belongs to us. That's a hard one for a lot of adults to wrap their head around, but a lot of kids intuitively understand that. If we can promote that idea as a foundational ethical principle just for living on the Earth, I think that we'll have a more livable future for everybody. There's a lot of present and intergenerational land-based trauma, which include the unfortunate legacies of indigenous genocide, slavery and the exploitation of migrant farm workers.

I have had conversations with parents who say even if their children don't say the words climate change, resilience, natural disasters or food security, or talk about how geographically remote we are – like what if the highway got cut off due to a landslide – we need to learn how to be self-sufficient and how to take care of more of our basic needs. But I think a lot of parents do understand that their kids are learning ecoliteracy. They're developing a sense of stewardship. We



**The world needs more smiling farmers.** PHOTOS VIA JESSE ALM

call it garden stewards' club for a reason. Whether or not you're participating in the garden program, and you're weeding, mulching, watering, planting, harvesting, doing a science or an art activity you are a garden steward. We are practicing stewardship.

The language is something that people are beginning to pick up on. Principal Kristin Sobilo will say it on the mic to the whole school: “How did we care for others today? How did we care for the Earth today? How do we care for ourselves? What kind of care do you need that maybe you're not getting?”

I love the way Robin Wall Kimmerer, who wrote *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*, talks about teaching college students. She's a university professor, and when she asked her students on

the first day of class how many of them love the Earth to raise their hands, almost all the hands went up. When she asked how many think that the Earth loved them, maybe a couple did. So one of my goals is to impress upon my students all the different ways that the Earth is caring for them, whether they realize it or not. Would they be here if they weren't being cared for? Do you have air to breathe, water to drink, food, and clothing to wear? Do you have a beautiful lake, mountain top, beach or place to walk your dog?

People need to remember that the Earth loves and cares for them, and takes care of them, literally. It's one thing to love your mother, but do you also recognize, honor and appreciate all the ways that your mother is loving you?

*To plant in a garden is to believe in tomorrow.*

– Audrey Hepburn





**HALLOWEEN WARS** You can watch Eureka native Mike Craghead on the Food Network's Halloween Wars, and you can catch him in Eureka and McKinleyville next month.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Local artist on Food Network

MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – Every October in Humboldt County you're likely to find Eureka native Mike Craghead carving up twisted pumpkin sculptures at local pumpkin patches and events, or you might have see him on Food Network's *Halloween Wars* (season 7, 2017).

But starting on Sunday, Sept. 22 Craghead will be back in the trenches for the *Halloween Wars* 'All-Star' season 14.

"The new season of Halloween Wars will premiere Sept. 22 at 9 p.m. with Jonathan Bennett returning as host and Shinmin Li and Aarti Sequeira as judges, states a press release from the Food Network. "The show will see eight teams of masterful pumpkin carvers, cake bakers and sugar artists compete against each other to create mind-blowing monster-themed displays. Captained by former champions... one team will be left standing and walk away with the Halloween Wars championship."

If you'd like to see Crahead's previous battles, you can stream *Halloween Wars* season 7 on MAX, or keep an eye out for marathon runs of past seasons on Food Network.

Beyond the show, October will bring many opportunities to see Mike's pumpkins come to life, from Sequoia Park Zoo's Boo at the Zoo, to Eureka Natural Foods, to Organic Matters' pumpkin patch and more.

Come see Craghead carve pumpkins on Saturday, Oct. 12 and Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Organic Matters Ranch, 6821 Myrtle Ave. in Eureka. On Sunday, Oct. 13, Craghead will carve pumpkins from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eureka Natural Foods at 2165 Central Ave. in McKinleyville. On Sunday, Oct. 20, Craghead will be at Eureka Natural Foods at 1450 Broadway in Eureka from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Saturday, Oct., 26 Craghead will be at Boo in the Zoo at the Sequoia Park Zoo from noon to 4 p.m.

MikeCraghead.com



Mike Craghead

## An American Night of Opera

Eureka Chamber Music Series

EUREKA/ARCATA – The Eureka Chamber Music Series presents An American Night at the Opera to kick off their new concert season. Arias, duets, and piano solos by legendary composers such as George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, Carlisle Floyd, and Leonard Bernstein will be performed by pianist Ronny Michael Greenberg, soprano Olivia Smith, and tenor César Delgado on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church in Eureka.

On Sunday, Sept. 22nd, a Concert and Conversation featuring songs from the American songbook as well as Mexican canciones will be presented at 3 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of Arcata.

Mainstage Concert tickets are \$40 general and \$10 for students. Concert and Conversation tickets are \$20 general and \$5 for students. Purchasing tickets in advance is recommended for this popular concert series, and there are no added fees or service charges when ordering tickets online at [eurekachambermusic.org](http://eurekachambermusic.org).

An American Night at the Opera is an exploration of how different influences, ranging from jazz and musical theatre to classical and modern operatic forms, come together to create a uniquely American musical experience. Jazz, with its roots deeply embedded in American history, brings a rhythmic and improvisational vitality that has influenced countless composers and continues to shape the sound of American opera.

# SCENE

## Bobby Alu brings island vibes to Playhouse

PLAYHOUSE ARTS

CREAMERY DISTRICT – Playhouse Arts is excited to announce that Bobby Alu, the Australian singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist known for his smooth island sounds, will be performing live on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m..

This will be a special night of music that transports listeners to the warm beaches of the South Pacific. Alu is an Australian artist known for his signature blend of Polynesian rhythms and laid-back grooves. Drawing on his Samoan heritage, Alu's music promotes a message of positivity, love, and connection. He is celebrated for his unique fusion of soulful melodies, and a positive, uplifting vibe that resonates with audiences worldwide.

With a sound that blends elements of reggae, roots, and soul, Alu has captured the hearts of fans across the

globe, earning acclaim for his dynamic live performances and his ability to create an atmosphere of genuine warmth and inclusivity. Whether playing the ukulele, guitar, or drums, Bobby's musician-ship is matched only by his charisma and the infectious energy he brings to the stage.

Tickets are available online at [playhousearts.org](http://playhousearts.org) or at the door. Local beer on tap and specialty drinks are available at the bar, with doors opening 30 minutes before the show. The playhouse is located at 1251 Ninth St. in Arcata



**BOBBY ALU** performs Thursday, Sept. 26.

### ❖ EUREKA SYMPHONY

## Prelude to the Season Gala

EUREKA SYMPHONY

EUREKA – The Eureka Symphony is welcoming music lovers of all ages to their "Prelude to the Season Gala" at the Fortuna River Lodge on Sunday, Sept. 29 from 2 to 5 p.m. to kick off their 2024-2025 concert season.

The afternoon will feature hors d'oeuvres by Brett Shuler Fine Catering, fine wines, beer, cider and special symphony cocktails. Claire Bent and her ukulele will entertain guests while they mingle. A special performance by the Temporary Resonance Trio, featuring Carol Jacobson, Terrie Baune and John Chernoff will be the day's crescendo.

"The Prelude to the Season Gala

has been a much-loved tradition for Symphony patrons for many years as an invite-only occasion," said new General Manager Nancy Stephenson. "This year we are very excited to celebrate our season kick-off with the entire community."

State Sen. Mike McGuire will host a rousing live auction featuring 10 different packages. Concert tickets will be given away and wine baskets will be raffled off.

Carpooling is encouraged, visit the Symphony's website for details. The Gala is sponsored by Petrusha Law. For tickets and information about performances, events, or financial support, go to [eurekasympphony.org](http://eurekasympphony.org) or call (707) 845-3655.

**BURLESQUE SHOW** The EXIT Theatre Arcata, 890 G St., second floor, presents DIVA Burlesque on Saturday, Sept. 14 at 8 p.m. The show is curated by Jamie Bondage with local performers Bella Bestia, Shea Freeloove, Olivia Gambino, Lottie DeLuscious, Lady Bird Gay and Miss Teri. Tickets \$20 at [diva-burlesque-september-2024.eventbrite.com](http://diva-burlesque-september-2024.eventbrite.com) or cash at the door. Leave reservation at [mail@theexit.org](mailto:mail@theexit.org).

**NORTH COUNTY FAIR** The North Country Fair takes place on Saturday, Sept. 21 and Sunday, Sept. 22, on the Arcata Plaza. This free and family-friendly festival features 175 art and craft vendors, three music and entertainment stages, local food booths, activities for kids, and a daily parade at 1 p.m. Bring your two-legged friends and families, but please leave your dogs and pets at home. The All Species Parade will take place on Saturday at 1 p.m., led by the Arcata Playhouse. Dress up in your favorite animal, creature, or species costume (don't forget your birthday party hat!) and join in on the fun! The Annual Samba Parade led by Samba da Alegria will take place on Sunday at 1 p.m. and, as always, promises to be a highlight of the Fair. The weekend will showcase more than 20 live local acts including a full schedule of bands, dancers, and entertainers. The North Country Fair is brought to you by The Same Old People. [northcountryfair.org](http://northcountryfair.org)

**THE FRANCES VANEK QUARTET** performs Thursday, Sept. 19 at The Basement, 780 Seventh St., ground floor of Jacoby's Storehouse, Arcata. Jazz quartet featuring Tim Randles, Ken Lawrence, Mike Labolle and Francis Vanek, featuring a wide variety of classic jazz repertoire. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. 21 and over. (707) 645-2309, [basementarcata.com](http://basementarcata.com)

**JEFF LANDEN** performs Thursday, Sept. 19 at the Logger, 510 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake. Local slide guitar virtuoso Jeff Landen shows off his repertoire. The show starts at 7 p.m. 21 and over. (707) 668-5000, [loggerbar.com/events](http://loggerbar.com/events)

**BLU EGYPTIAN** performs Friday, Sept. 20 at the Humboldt Brewery, 856 10th St., Arcata. Bli Egyptian are an electrifying Chico-based quartet who have single-handedly pioneered the genre prog-jam. This catchy breed of funk, Latin, reggae, bluegrass and rock 'n' roll has swept up the West Coast in a dancing frenzy. With Phish tribute band The Velvet Sea. Doors open at 8 p.m, show starts at 8:30 p.m. 21 and over. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$10 at the door. (707) 826-BREWS, [humbrews.com](http://humbrews.com)

**CHRIS COHEN** performs Friday, Sept. 20 at Richard's Goat, 401 I St., Arcata. Chris Cohen has had stints in the mighty Deerhoof and The Curtains, production and session work for Weyes Blood, Kurt Vile, and more, and three previous solo records. *Paint a Room* is his first album in five years and his debut for Hardly Art Records. One of the area's finest songwriters, John Ludington, will open. Making their Goat debut, the husband and wife slow dance indie group Glacier Dorm are set to close out the night. Doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 8:30 p.m. 21 and over. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. (707) 630-5000, [richardsgoat.com](http://richardsgoat.com)

**WILD ABANDON** performs Friday, Sept. 20 at The Basement. 780 Seventh St., ground

floor of Jacoby's Storehouse, Arcata. Arcata's Wild Abandon blends folk-rock roots with experimental rock 'n' roll feel and a poetic overtone. Doors open at 8:30 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. 21 and over. \$5 at the door (707) 645-2309, [basementarcata.com](http://basementarcata.com)

**THE JESSE MILLS BAND** performs Friday, Sept. 20 at the Logger, 510 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake. Humboldt County guitarist and singer-songwriter Jesse Mills playing hearty blues and roots rock. The show starts at 9 p.m. 21 and over. (707) 668-5000, [loggerbar.com/events](http://loggerbar.com/events)

**BUDDY REED AND THE RIP IT UPS** perform Friday, Sept. 20 at Six Rivers Brewery, 1300 Central Ave., McKinleyville. Local boys Buddy Reed and the Rip It Ups, layin' it down low with all your blues and roots rock favorites. Show starts at 6 p.m. All ages. (707) 839-7580, [sixriversbrewery.com](http://sixriversbrewery.com)

**MARK FARINA** performs Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Arcata Theatre Lounge, 1036 G St., Arcata. Mark Farina is a name that rings out across the entire global dance music industry. His nonstop touring, constant content creation, partnerships with legendary venues and record labels as well as his total commitment to showcasing the best new and old school producers in his sets have made him a living legend to lovers of house and Mushroom Jazz everywhere. Also with Little John. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m. All ages. Tickets are \$25 in advance. (707) 630-5000, [arcatatheatrelounge.com](http://arcatatheatrelounge.com)

**WAND** performs Saturday, Sept. 21 at Richard's Goat, 401 I St., Arcata. Wand formed in 2013 in L.A. and have released several albums on the In the Red and Drag City record labels. Their latest critically acclaimed release on Drag City, *Vertigo*, has been described as "alive with mysterious alchemy and limitless invention" by *Under the Radar* magazine. Also with Portland's

Jackie-O Motherfucker, featuring members of The Lodestones. Doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 8:30 p.m. 21 and over. Tickets are \$15 in advance and at the door. (707) 630-5000, [richardsgoat.com](http://richardsgoat.com)

**NORMAN BRADFORD 60TH BIRTHDAY BASH**

takes place Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Humboldt Brewery, 856 10th St., Arcata. Norman Bradford celebrates his 60th birthday with some of the many bands he has played with in Humboldt! Come celebrate with Norman, family and friends and local bands Dead On, Wild Otis and the Magnificent Sanctuary Band. Doors open at 7:30 p.m, show starts at 8 p.m. 21 and over. Tickets are \$10 in advance and at the door. (707) 826-BREWS, [humbrews.com](http://humbrews.com)

**GHOST TRAIN** performs Saturday, Sept. 21 at The Basement. 780 Seventh St., ground floor of Jacoby's Storehouse, Arcata. Ghost Train is a dance band that plays an eclectic mix of R&B, funk, soul and rock with a hint of Latin music. Doors open at 8:30 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. 21 and over. \$5 at the door. (707) 645-2309, [basementarcata.com](http://basementarcata.com)

**A BANJO MAKES THREE** performs Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Logger, 510 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake. A Banjo Makes Three is keeping traditional bluegrass alive with the sounds of Jimmy Martin, Flatt & Scruggs and Bill Monroe, to name a few. The show starts at 9 p.m. 21 and over. (707) 668-5000, [loggerbar.com/events](http://loggerbar.com/events)

**PIET DALMOLEN** performs Saturday, Sept. 21 at Six Rivers Brewery, 1300 Central Ave., McKinleyville. Piet Dalmolen uses loops and effects to create unique interpretations

of classic songs from all genres. Show starts at 5 p.m. All ages. (707) 839-7580, [sixriversbrewery.com](http://sixriversbrewery.com)

**HOT TUNA** performs Tuesday, Sept. 24 at the Van Duzer Theatre at Cal Poly Humboldt. Hot Tuna – Jorma Kaukonen and Jack Casady perform with a well-honed and solid power, always in the groove from their years of experience and mutual inspiration. Started as a side project during Jefferson Airplane days, the two boyhood pals have never wavered in one of the most enduring friendships in rock 'n' roll history. All ages. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35-65 general. (707) 826-3928, [centerarts.humboldt.edu](http://centerarts.humboldt.edu)

**XIU XIU** performs Tuesday, Sept. 24 at Richard's Goat, 401 I St., Arcata. Started in San Jose in 2002, Xiu Xiu has relentlessly toured all over the world ever since and currently consists of David Kendrick (Sparks, Devo, Gleaming Spires) with longtime members Angela Seo and Jamie Stewart. Their music is drawn from British post-punk and synthpop, modern Western classical, noise and experimental music, Asian percussion music, American folk, torch singers, house, techno and 1950s rock 'n' roll. Doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. 21 and over. Tickets are \$28 in advance and at the door. (707) 630-5000, [richardsgoat.com](http://richardsgoat.com)

### COMING UP:

- Bobby Alu at the Arcata Playhouse, Thursday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m.
- Zepparella at Humboldt Brewery, Friday, Sept. 27, 8 p.m.
- Bankrol Hayden at the Arcata Theatre Lounge, Saturday, Sept. 28, 9 p.m.
- MarchFourth at Humboldt Brewery, Sunday, Sept. 29, 8 p.m.
- Sponge performs at Blue Lake Casino, Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 p.m.
- Black Violin at Van Duzer Theatre at Cal Poly Humboldt, Friday, Oct. 11, 8 p.m.

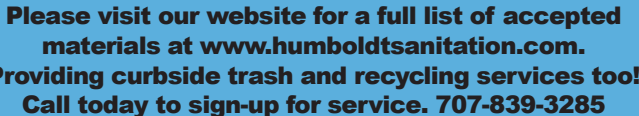


Norman Bradford







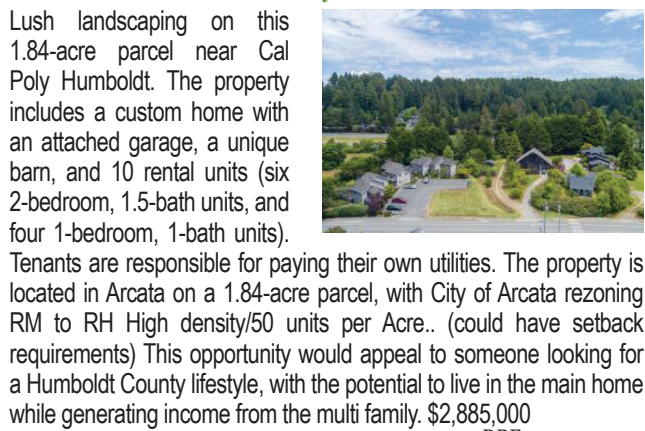
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5 lb bags or purchases over \$50*



## Near Cal Poly Humboldt



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**NHM TRIVIA NIGHT** The Natural History Museum Cal Poly Humboldt, 1242 G St., Arcata, is holding another fun evening of trivia Friday, Sept. 20 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Participants will be split into teams competing to answer questions correctly and quickly. Trivia questions follow natural history and nature themes and are divided into rounds based on topic. Teams with the most correct answers throughout the night will be awarded prizes! Join us for a night of competitive fun! Admission is \$3 for members, \$6 for non-members. [humboldt.edu/natmus](mailto:humboldt.edu/natmus), email [natmus@humboldt.edu](mailto:natmus@humboldt.edu), (707) 826-4480.

**EXPLORE A BEACH FOREST**  
Join a Friends of the Dunes naturalist for a free guided tour of the Samoa Dunes & Wetlands Conservation Area on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.. This 357-acre ecologically diverse property features open sand sheets,

### Solution to Crossword:

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wetlands and the southernmost extent of the Shore Pine-Sitka Spruce forest in the Pacific Northwest. The program will include walking on loose sand and up and down some moderate slopes. This walk is moderate to strenuous. Space is limited. Call (707) 444-1397 to sign up.

Join Redwood Region Audubon Society for a free guided field trip at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Bring your binoculars and meet trip leader Chet Ogan at the end of South I Street (Klopp Lake) in Arcata for incredible views of Humboldt Bay, easy-to-walk trails and a great diversity of birdlife. September marks the beginning of many migrants' journeys so come observe and enjoy the migratory behaviors and feeding frenzies.



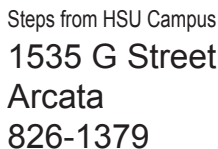
**NATURE JOURNALING AT THE MARSH** Friends of the Arcata Marsh (FOAM) will be offering a new free monthly activity: “Nature Journaling at the Marsh.” Retired teacher and super-experienced Marsh naturalist Lynn Jones will serve as leader on the last Tuesday of each month from 9 to 10:30 a.m., beginning on Sept. 24. No pre-registration is required, but sessions are limited to the first 10 people to show up at the Marsh Interpretive Center. All ages are welcome, as long as participants are able to concentrate quietly for an extended period of time. Heavy rain cancels. FOAM will provide clipboards and colored pencils; participants need to bring their own paper (e.g., a notebook, journal, or separate sheets) and a writing implement of their choice to jot notes. A pad

to sit on or a folding chair is optional, as are binoculars and guidebooks. Wear weather-appropriate clothing, which may include a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen. The goal of this 90-minute session is to sit quietly in one spot in the Marsh (locations will vary), making formal and informal observations of natural surroundings, on a small or large scale. The intent is to develop sensory observation skills and curiosity and to explore relationships in nature. Each observation begins with recording the date, precise location, elevation, weather (cloud cover, wind direction, air temperature) and time (most of these can be found on a phone). Next, for 30 to 45 minutes, participants will write and/or draw observations using their various senses. Lynn will offer prompts, but observation topics can be a particular species (plant or animal), ecosystem, or overall environment. Style and interpretation will vary. The session will end with a discussion about "What did this observation make you wonder?" (707) 826-2359

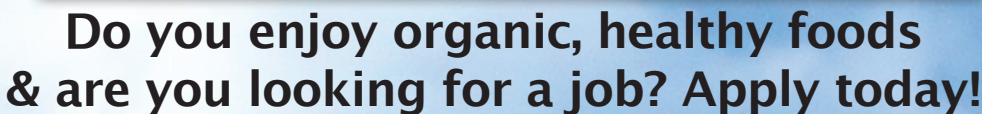
**MARSH TOUR** Friends of the Arcata Marsh (FOAM) is sponsoring a free tour of the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary on Saturday, Sept. 21. Meet leader Paul Wilson at 2 p.m. in the lobby of the Interpretive Center (AMIC) on South G Street for a 90-minute, rain-or-shine walk focusing on fruits. (707) 826-2359.



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